



February 5, 2010

**Monroe Clinic
and Hospital**
515 22nd Avenue
Monroe, WI 53566
608-324-2000

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin
U.S. House of Representatives
2446 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-0603

Albany
700 Carolan Dr.
Albany, WI 53502
608-862-1616

Dear Representative Baldwin:

Blanchardville
309 S. Main St.
Blanchardville, WI 53516
608-523-4261

On behalf of Monroe Clinic in Monroe, Wisconsin, I am writing to you concerning an important issue to both our health system and our community. We are respectfully requesting your active support for congressional funding to help provide the equipment needed in the new Northwest Addition of our campus. Building the Northwest Addition is part of an ongoing effort to meet the growing health care needs of the residents of Monroe and surrounding communities. We serve a rural market. This investment will help ensure that our communities will be able to receive quality, cost-effective health care close to home.

Brodhead
1904 First Center Ave.
Brodhead, WI 53520
608-897-2191

Monroe Clinic was founded in 1939 by a group of area physicians. At the same time the community invited the Sisters of St. Agnes to come to Monroe to build a hospital. Monroe Clinic and St. Clare Hospital worked together for many years to provide for the health care needs of the region. In 1992, Monroe Clinic and St. Clare Hospital merged to become an integrated, non-profit healthcare ministry providing a broad range of primary care and specialty services. That original partnership between the clinic and hospital has thrived. Last year, for the second time in three years, Monroe Clinic was named one of the nation's 100 Top Hospitals by Thompson Reuters.

Durand
400 S. Center St.
Durand, IL 61024
815-248-3443

Freeport
1301 S. Kiwanis Dr.
Freeport, IL 61032
815-235-1406

Freeport Eye Care
1110 S. Park Blvd.
Freeport, IL 61032
815-232-1105

Highland Women's Care
3103 W. Kunkle Blvd.
Freeport, IL 61032
815-233-0999

The former St. Clare Hospital, and the Monroe Clinic's existing hospital, has grown in phases, with the main hospital being built in 1939, an addition in 1950 and one in 1970. The majority of the current hospital is housed in the 1950 and 1970 structure. One exception is the Family Birthing Center, which is still housed in the original 1939 structure. As advancements in medicine have grown by leaps and bounds over the years, it has been difficult for our facilities to keep pace. After a thorough assessment our facility and future needs, our Board of Directors approved a plan to update our facilities. This will allow us to continue to provide quality medical care to the communities we serve well into the decades ahead.

Lena
214 Schuyler
Lena, IL 61048
815-369-4541

Monroe Clinic - FastCare
405 W. 8th St.
Monroe, WI 53566
608-324-1940

New Glarus
1800 Second St.
New Glarus, WI 53574
608-527-5296

The Northwest Addition will be built on the existing campus and will essentially replace the existing hospital. This will allow Monroe Clinic to support the provision of 21st century health care, and prepare us for the technological changes in medicine in the future. This \$83 million four story addition has been designed

utilizing green technology, evidenced based design for efficiency in patient care, materials and lighting to promote healing and other features for greater patient safety. We expect that the new facility will be certified as a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) facility.

Our plan is to use local contractors whenever possible. Since labor costs are approximately \$33 million of the total budget for construction over a two-year period, this project has received a lot of local interest and support. The key departments that will be housed in the Northwest Addition are the Emergency Department, the Cardiac Clinic, Medical and Diagnostic Imaging, and Women's and Infant's Health. The Northwest Addition will also have new single patient rooms, the intensive care unit, a new lobby, waiting rooms and registration, along with a new cafeteria for visitor and employee use. Total equipment costs for the Northwest Addition are over \$10 million. We do plan to re-use any existing equipment that continues to meet patient needs, as well as quality and safety standards.

We are respectfully requesting your help in securing \$2 million in assistance from Congress in the FY 2011 Labor-HHS Appropriations Bill to help fund our equipment needs for the new Northwest Addition. The cost of the project is \$83 million, which has been secured through self-funding. This request will assist us in purchasing the new technology, and we know this will dramatically improve the quality of care for those we serve.

Please accept this letter as a request for support and as an invitation to visit our facilities for a personal briefing on this project. We would be happy to explain in detail how the plan will benefit patients. We look forward to working with you and your staff on this initiative. Thank you for your support of Monroe Clinic and health care throughout the State of Wisconsin.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael B. Sanders". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Michael B. Sanders
President and CEO